



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

MAY 23 1990

ENFORCEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: RPM Close-Out Report: Homestake Mining Company (HMC)
Site ID: NMD007860935
Account Number: OTGB06L618

FROM: William Rowe

TO: Ricky McCoy

DECLASSIFIED
10/16/2017

Past Site Highlights

HMC is a uranium mill tailings site (mill and inactive and active tailings piles). The site is defined as company property. Four subdivisions are south of the site. The mill was originally licensed in 1958 by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), and subsequently by the State of New Mexico in 1974 under "agreement State" status. After selenium was found in private wells the site was placed on the NPL. HMC opposed the NPL listing on constitutional grounds arguing that NRC was the appropriate federal authority among other things.

EPA required HMC to supply alternate water to homeowners in 1983. Installations were completed in 1985. NRC re-assumed licensing authority in 1986. EPA required HMC to perform a radon RI/FS in July 1987. A no action radon ROD was signed in September 1989. The NMEID continues to assert jurisdiction through a Groundwater Discharge Plan, DP-200. DP-200 has resulted in offsite / plume flushing and onsite containment.

Important Documents And Information Summaries

- 1) Site file outline (some files in Ft. Worth storage)
- 2) ROD (including Administrative Record)
- 3) Proposed MOU with NRC and surrounding correspondence
- 4) NRC license
- 5) Recent groundwater reports
- 6) Site Status Summary
- 7) Fact sheets
- 8) Community Relations Site Summary



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Current Site Status, Issues and Contacts

- 1) NRC is lead agency pursuant to 10 CFR 40, Appendix A for groundwater and surface reclamation. NRC is requiring tailings dewatering and therefore increased evaporation pond capacity. NRC has "two operable units".
- 2) NRC does not feel an MOU with EPA is necessary. The NRC Commission voted on it in 1989 and upon a tie, suspended the issue pending global EPA/NRC discussions.
- 3) Demand letter with Cost Summary being prepared for RI/FS oversight costs (Tech-Law). July 1, 1987 (order effective) through September 30, 1989 (ROD).
- 4) Contacts are:

EPA Attorney:

NRC: Gary Konwinski - (FTS) 776-2805

NMEID: Dale Doremus - (505) 827-2807

HMC: Richard Ferrell - (505) 287-4456

Techlaw: Frank Bisset